Violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

1118.SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints in regard to violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in several States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Reports regarding violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have been received from time to time from various sources including Regional Offices of the Ministry, non-Government Organisations,- individuals etc. Reports mostly pertain to use of forest land for non-forest purposes without prior approval of the Central Government or non-fulfilment of the conditions stipulated by the Ministry in the approvals issued under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

(cj The concerned State Governments have been asked to ensure that violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 do not take place. Further, cases involving violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are decided in accordance with the guidelines issued for implementation of the Act.

News regarding Dumping of Mail By Postman

1119. SHRI RAM RAT AN RAM:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the several events recently reported in the media about postman dumping large quantities of mail in the garbage;

(b) how many such incidents have come to the notice of Government during this year, and what are in brief the details thereof;

(c) what penal action has been taken against the culprits; and

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Coal Movement by Railways

1120. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total coal movement by Railways for power plants in 1994-95;

(b) whether movement of coal by Railways commensurate with the targets fixed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The total Coal loading by Railways for power plants during 1994-95 was 103 m.t. (provisional).

(b) and (c) The shortfall in coal loading was due to inability of coal companies to offer and load coal as per target during the first half of the year 1994-95.

Poor quality of Post, Telegraph and Telecom Services in Chhatisgarh Region of M.P.

1121. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the poor quality of essential services available in posts, telegraphs and

telecommunications sector in Chhatisgarh region in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) whether it is a fact that the quality of services there needs improvements; and

(c) if so, the direction given in that regard to the posts, telegraphs and telecommunications in Madhya Pradesh Circle, Bhopal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Post: Postal services in Chhatisgarh are satisfactory. Occasional shortcomings in operations are noticed, for which corrective action is taken.

Telegraph: The telegraph services are functioning satisfactorily. The percentage of delivery of telegrams in 12 day light hours is 95.82 during 1994-95.

(b) and (c) Post: Bringing about improvement is a continuous process. To provide error free, quick and single window counter service, Multipurpose Counter Machines have been installed at Raipur HQ and Bhilai SO. To speed up transmission of money orders, it is proposed to start Satellite Money Order Service from Raipur. In order to monitor mail transmission and delivery, Live Mail Survey has been carried out with satisfactory results. Divisional Test Letter Runs, Circle Test Letter Runs and National Test Letter Runs are carried out to check transmission of mail and remedial action is taken in case delay is detected. Constant efforts are made to overcome the shortcomings in postal service through appropriate intervention.

Telegraph: In Chhatisgarh region, telegraph services are further modernised by introducing 8 Store and Forward telegraph lines and 13 Biscriptural Telegraph Message Switching Ports in the region. One 32 line Store and Forward Message Switch is under installation at Raipur. There is a proposal to instal Electronic Keyboard Concentrator/ Electronic Keyboards in all the block headquarters in order to connect them to National Telegraph Network for speedier disposal of Telegrams.

(a) to (c) Telecommunications: Telecommunication services are in general satisfactory in this region. However, due to difficult terrains and dense forest in this region, the maintenance of overhead transmission media is a difficult task which causes interruption of services sometimes. The following steps have been initiated to improve the quality of telecom services.

1. Replacement of bare conductors by insulated wires.
2. Replacement of long overhead lines by stable transmission system.
3. Provision of rural Public Telephones on Radio Relay Systems.
4. Provision of rural" STD Public telephones.
5. Daily testing and close monitoring of ruial exchanges at the highest level.

Crisis in ITI, Bangalore

1122. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bangalore unit of the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) have started facing a major crisis so expressed through cash loss and other adverse economic parameters;

(b) what according to Government aids the ITI and steps contemplate to overcome these factors;

(c) whether it is a fact that the employees and officers associations have submitted a memorandum to the Telecom Communication Chairman on 4th May, 1995 elaborating on their perception about the crisis and the possible measures to alleviate the problems; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response to it?